

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-35, and 37-52 are presently active in this case. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9, 11-14, 16, 19, 28-30, and 38 have been amended, and claims 46-52 have been added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 15, 18, 19, and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,221,893 to Kondou et al. Claims 4-8, 11, 12, 14, 38-45, 16, 28, 29-35, 9, 10, 13, 17, and 20-27 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that the above-noted claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response thereto, Applicants have rewritten claims 4, 5, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 28, 29, 30, and 38 in independent form. Those claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Newly added claims 46-52 are based on claims 4, 5, 11, 12, 28, 29, and 30, respectively – the subject matter is different in that a corrosion speed is formulated as opposed to a corrosion loss. Newly added claims 46-52 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Regarding claims 1 and 2, those claims have been rewritten as proposed by the examiner during a telephonic interview. In short, the recited environmental factors are related by --and-- as opposed to “or”. Regarding claim 19, that claim has also been rewritten as proposed by the examiner. That is, claim 19 has been rewritten to provide that the environmental factors include a distance from a coast.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in

condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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